

**City of Bend
Environment and Climate Committee
November 9, 2023**

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Committee (ECC) was called to order at 11:11 a.m. on Thursday, November 9, 2023 in the City Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street, and online.

The October ECC meeting did not take place due to a power outage.

- 1. Roll Call:** Rory Isbell, Alex Cerussi (present virtually), Neil Baunsgard, Mark Buckley, Andrew Calise, Kavi Chokshi, Lauren Fraser, Kellie Jensen (present virtually), Smita Mehta, Laura Tabor, Sasha Sulia (ex officio, present virtually).

Absent: Serena Dietrich

- 2. Approval of August 10, 2023 and September 14, 2023 ECC Meetings**

Chair Baunsgard moved to approve the August 10, 2023 and September 14, 2023 meeting minutes. Member Chokshi seconded the motion. **Voice Vote** – Members Isbell, Cerussi, Buckley, Calise, Fraser, Jensen, Mehta, Tabos, Sulia Yes 9 No 0

- 3. Public Comment**

Freddie Finney-Jordet, (present virtually) is a member of Deschutes Youth Climate Coalition and Fridays for Future Bend. Finney-Jordet along with these 2 groups organized the Global Climate Strike in Bend on September 15th. Following this protest, the group sent a letter to City Council calling on the city for electrification. They have also sent petitions to the ECC and City Council for electrification. Freddie Finney-Jordet stated that City Council has so been very receptive on this issue.

- 4. ECC Schedule Updates and Planning**

Councilor Megan Norris presented a natural gas update from City Council.

Councilor Norris met with the Youth Climate Coalition and attended one of their marches. Councilor Norris, Mayor Kebler, and other council members are drafting a letter to the Youth Coalition as a response regarding electrification. This will be taken up as part of a work session in March and will rely on the ECC to assist with the policy timing schedule.

Further details regarding the work session were discussed amongst members and Councilor Norris.

Members Isbell, Tabor, Cerussi, Calise, Fraser and Chair Baunsgard volunteered to participate in an Energy Subgroup per a request from council.

The Waste and Materials Group will be meeting soon.

The Utility Public Advisory Group has been working on stormwater, wastewater, and water conservation. They have been assessing which outreach strategies are most effective. These strategies would be beneficial for the ECC to be aware of.

5. Bike Rack Update

Vice Chair Chokshi presented on the Bike Rack which is a “parking lot” for topics that are brought to the committee that are not on the CCAP. The format has been transitioned to a Google sheet for the committee members to utilize. The previous process for the use of the Bike Rack was explained. The current Bike Rack topics were discussed and include:

- HOA Anti-Sustainability Rules
- Tree Code
- Xeriscaping with Affordable Housing
- Dark Skies and Lighting
- Land Use and City of Bend
- Natural Gas and Fuel Choice in Buildings
- Cascade Natural Gas Franchise Agreement
- Rubberized Chip Seal Update
- Neonicotinoid Ban on City Property
- Climate Emergency Declaration
- Prineville Biomass Project

The Bike Rack will become an agenda topic each quarter.

6. ECC Rep Reports

Vice Chair Chokshi presented on the most recent status of the Tree Regulation Update Advisory Committee (TRUAC). The next meeting will be the first week of December which will include the final vote and recommendation to council.

The current committee decisions include:

- Size of Regulated Trees to be Inventoried and Mapped: 6” or larger
- Size of Priority of priority Trees: 20” or larger
- Minimum/Maximum Lot Sizes to Consider for Mitigation Options
- Preservation Options:
 - Option 1. Percent of Priority Trees to be Preserved: 20% of Priority Trees would need to be preserved.
 - Option 2. Percent of Regulation Trees to be Preserved: 25% of the total diameter at breast height (DBH) of Regulated Trees would need to be preserved.
 - Option 3: On-Site Tree Replacement Ratio: Mitigation trees are required on-site to make up for anything less than the 25% DBH required in Option 2.
 - Option 4: Payment In-Lieu of Tree Preservation: Staff will establish a program and payment amount.

7. Agenda Review

8. Adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully,

Samantha Gamelgaard
Senior Administrative Support Specialist